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THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 119, No. 10

News you can use, news you can trust

Canton
tumblers
win regional
meet
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City looks at shared services

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Incentives to combine municipal services tied to state-shared revenue have Romulus officials looking for ways to net more funding.

Mayor Alan Lambert said there's nothing officially in place regarding sharing services – like police, fire or public works – but that more state money is a powerful incentive to explore those possibilities.

“If big bonuses are being offered to do that, we’d certainly look into it,” he said. “Right now, the police chief (Charles Kirby) is looking at how that could work. I would think the most feasible thing to do would be to find

”

If big bonuses are being offered to do that, we’d certainly look into it.

Mayor Alan Lambert

close, smaller municipalities that may need help.”

Sharing and merging services is a mantra that has emerged from Lansing to aid in staving off a statewide budget deficit. The concept of merging services – or even entire school districts – has been encouraged, but few governmental entities have embraced the idea.

Some municipalities have merged services out of necessity. The cities of Inkster and Westland have operated a joint-911 dispatch system for about 10 years because the considerably larger Westland had more up-to-date equipment.

The City of Northville and Northville Township signed a joint-dispatch agreement after months of heated debate. Plymouth Township also handles dispatch services for the smaller City of Plymouth, and the township has an agreement to transfer prisoners from Plymouth to Wayne County, or to

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Seniors programming
director is now retired

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Abuse suspect
back to court

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Zodiac proves to
be a real thriller

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Shining stars

The Rev. Rita Talley recently invited the members of the Ministry in Motion dancers to perform at Romulus Middle School. The dancers, directed by Monique Talley, performed several numbers as part of a final African American History Month performance at the school. Here (left to right, first row) are Krystian Talley, Tajah Riley, Ashley Kendrick, and Tenille Riley and (third row, left to right) Anjeil Shreeve and Monique Talley.

Robotics team is gearing up to win

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

It's that time of the year again at the GM Powertrain Plant.

The Romulus Eagles FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) team has spent several hours alongside GM engineers to create a robot that team members hope will take them to a championship year.

A partner program, FIRST aims to get young people interested in technological careers by building a robot. Companies that have a vested interest in the next generation workforce – like GM – mentor a high school team throughout the building of the robot and the consequential competitions that take place during the spring months.

After the robots are built, the teams compete against budding engineers from all over the United States.

The specific format requires the robot – which is controlled by a human – to pick up a black or red inner tube and place it on the rungs to make a tic-tac-toe formation. Opponents can then cancel out a line by hanging an opposite color inner tube over the first one on the rung. Points are scored by lines at the end of individual, two-minute matches.

“The points from lifting up other teammate robots will probably determine each match,” said Kevin Gay, an engineer at GM and lead mentor for the FIRST team. “We are working very hard to make a mechanism that will allow us to do this.”

Gay works with the team along with another GM engineer, Doug Mayo. The pair has been able to take several teams through competitions in Michigan, and has lead the last two teams to the national finals in Atlanta, Ga..

A complex combination of wires, motors, electri-



GM Powertrain engineer Doug Mayo shows off the 2007 robot which will compete three times this year. The robot is the end product of 6 weeks' worth of labor by the FIRST team and the engineers.

Sweet sorrow

Long-time director at The Senior Alliance celebrates retirement

Scott Spielman
Editor

This time, Georgia Bradford is really going to retire.

Honest.

"I've changed my mind on retiring twice," said the 85-year-old resident of Sumpter Township.

The third time appeared to be the charm. The Senior Alliance (TSA), where she worked for 22 years, hosted a retirement reception for their long-time director of programming recently. In her role, Bradford provided a variety of services to senior citizens throughout western Wayne County.

"I always admired the fact that she was constantly working and always giving back to the seniors," said Nancy Wojewski-Noel, director of senior services for the City of Wayne.

Bradford has garnered quite a collection of awards during her tenure with TSA. She was once named Senior Citizen of the Year by the Michigan State Fair committee and holds a variety of local and state-wide awards, too—not bad for someone who at first didn't want the job.

Bradford was born and raised in Irondale, Al. A salutatorian when she graduated from Irondale High School in 1939, she moved to Michigan with her husband, Nathaniel, in 1955, settling at first in Ferndale. Her husband had just been released from the Army and he had wanted a change of scenery. He took a job as a long-distance truck driver and Bradford took a series of jobs, too—without telling her husband.

When he found out, he recruited her to help him. She was soon his relief driver, piloting semi-trailer trucks across the country at a time when there weren't many major interstates.

It didn't last long. One day a chance glance in the rearview mirror showed her that someone was following them too closely. That 'someone' turned out to be one of their own trailers, weighed down with a few tons of bricks, that had broken free and was swaying wildly. Bradford said she pulled over right away.

"I handed over the keys," she said. "That was enough driving for me."

Bradford held a few other jobs before she went to work as the coordinator of senior services for

Sumpter Township, a post she held for seven years. At 54, she worked on an assembly line for the Chrysler corporation—at a time when it was a male-dominated profession.

She caught the attention of Bill Brand, then-director of The Senior Alliance, through her work at Sumpter Township. He offered her the job, but it took her nearly a year to accept it.

"I didn't know if I'd be able to do it," she said. "I had only worked in one place. I didn't know what I would do with 34 cities."

She soon found out. Among her accomplishments she counts getting the newsletter published by The Senior Alliance out of the hands of board members and into the hands of seniors throughout western Wayne County.

"It's are filled with information," she said of The Seniority News. "I wanted to get the information where it would do the most good," she said. She did, too, even though that meant delivering about 5 tons of newspapers every month.

The simple goal of getting information where it needed to be provided the framework for



Georgia Bradford said she's really going to retire this time. She wants to devote more time to her favorite hobby—sewing.

her 22-year career with The Senior Alliance. She said she most enjoyed helping other seniors find the services they needed and helping them whenever she could.

"If I knew where they needed to go, I'd send them there," she said. "If I could answer their questions, I would. If they needed money for rent, well, if I had it I'd give it to them."

Even in her impending retirement, Bradford said she plans to stay busy. She has a 10-acre plot of land in Sumpter that she's planning to move her house to—once it's repaired from a December house fire—and turn her favorite hobby, sewing, into a part-time occupation. She also wants to

open up a music studio where disabled people can come to relax. That idea came from a favorite Bible story.

"So many people just need something to relax their minds," she said. "Music may be just the thing they need."

With a carpenter in the family and music teachers, too, she said she'll be able to put both plans into motion, soon.

She said she would enjoy her retirement banquet, too. Well, sort of.

"I don't like people making that big a fuss over me; I just don't it," she said. "I've never liked being in the spotlight, but I'm very grateful that they wanted to do it."

Strawberry Festival auditions set

The Belleville National Strawberry Festival will host an entertainment showcase audition from noon to 7 p.m. on April 1 at the UAW Local 735, located at 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton. All types of family friendly entertainment are welcome to apply to audition.

The Belleville National Strawberry Festival and other talent-booking representatives from across the state will be in attendance. Sound setup and drum kit will be provided. Booth space is also available.

Performers are required to register prior to the audition. Early registration is encouraged as time slots usually fill up fast.

Festival and event representatives and anyone looking to book acts for their event are welcome to attend at no charge.

For more information or to obtain an application, contact the festival office at (734) 697-3137 or visit www.nationalstrawberryfest.com to obtain updated showcase and festival information.

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Baseball park plan is not quite ‘long gone’

Molly TIPPEN
Staff Writer

It looks like it could be a while before minor league baseball comes to Romulus, if at all.

Tim Keyes, the economic development director for the city, said he’s hopeful the parties that would build a stadium for a minor league baseball team can iron out their difference in a conference call. But he also said negotiations are breaking down.

“There are a number of issues that need to be worked out, and it’s a slow process,” he said. “We can’t say too much about it right now – we’re still taking about it.”

A stadium, which would be construct-

ed as part of a mixed-use development at Wick and Vining roads, was touted as part of plan that could make Romulus the entertainment capital of western Wayne County. The city, developers and an unnamed sports entity have been in talks for about 18 months.

Keyes said complex issues of ownership are under the microscope, and if those issues can be worked out, the rest of the development should fall into place.

“(The entities) feel it’s the right place and the right parcel of land,” he said. “but it’s just more complex than that.”

Minor league baseball could be a shot in the arm for the local economy, which is taking a beating from the faltering automotive industry and job losses in

other sectors. The Toledo Mud Hens – a minor league team associated with the Detroit Tigers – regularly sells out Fifth Third Field, which is located in downtown Toledo.

That structure, which seats 10,300 fans, cost \$22 million to build, but brings a steady stream of fans that spend money at nearby businesses and retailers. In 2006, Toledo hosted the Triple All-Star Game, and \$3 million was pumped into the community, according to published reports.

A ball park could round out planned entertainment venues that are eagerly discussed but have not yet come to pass. It would join a planned casino and race-track slated to rise from a vacant parcel of land on Vining Road. The casino,

which would be owned by the Hannahville Indian Tribe, is working its way through a federal approvals process. The racetrack is on hold until a lawsuit brought by the operators of another harness racing track is resolved.

Officials hope restaurants, stores, retail outlets and other small businesses would be willing to do business in and around the new stadium.

Minor league baseball became popular in part because the tickets are less expensive than major league admittance fees, and because the entertainment value is equal.

Keyes said the having a ballpark would be huge asset.

“We hope things can be worked out,” he said.

News in brief

Tournament will help animals

Supporters of the new Romulus Animal Shelter will once again hold a bowling fundraiser to generate much-needed funds to build the new structure.

The “9 Pin No Tap Tournament” will take place at the Romulus Lanes bowling alley, which is located at 37452 West Huron River Dr.

Funds raised will go directly to a fund established to build the shelter. So far, about \$80,000 of the needed \$250,000 has been donated, according to Councilman William Wadsworth, who organized the fundraising campaign. In-kind building services have also been donated, and the structure is now in the design phase.

Registration for the tournament is preferred. To register, call (734) 941-622 or (734) 941-0616.

Church to give away clothing

The Middlebelt Baptist Church is once again holding a Clothes Giveaway to assist needy individuals living in the area.

The event will continue from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the church. Clothes for women, men, and children will be available.

Middlebelt Baptist is located at 943 Middlebelt Road in Inkster.

For more information, call the church at (734) 728-3838.

Gym to help hungry

Women looking to get healthy and help the less fortunate can do both at Curves in Wayne or Romulus.

Every woman who brings a bag of non-perishable food items to the facility can join the gym with no service fee.

Curves of Romulus is located at 36015 Goddard Road, Suite 200. Curves of Wayne is located at 34840 Michigan Ave. West.

For more information, call the Romulus location at (734) 941-0900, or the Wayne location at (734) 722-9200.

Group seeks outstanding volunteers

Molly TIPPEN
Staff Writer

Citizens have until March 16 to enter a dedicated community volunteer into the United Way for Southeastern Michigan “Celebrate Volunteers . . . Recognizing Hometown Heroes” contest.

The United Way will present awards to volunteers in eight categories this year, said Patricia Ellis, a spokeswoman for the organization.

“We’re looking for people who volunteer their time and expertise, but don’t expect any recognition,” she said. “We’ve had people that volunteer in all sorts of capacities – we had a youth volunteer who put in more than 400 hours of time at Oakwood Hospital. Those are the kinds of people we want to hear about.”

Volunteers are being singled out because of National Volunteer Week, celebrated from April 15 – 21, Ellis said. A luncheon is planned to honor the eight volunteers on April 16.

“We look for volunteers all year around, but this a chance to thank them for heir efforts in the community.”

About 3,000 volunteers serve

throughout the Southeast Michigan area each year, according to United Way data.

Categories include the Bernie Firestone Award, sponsored by the United Way and the Michigan Department of Labor, which recognizes an outstanding rank and file member of a local labor union dedicated to community service.

The CorPLUS Award is sponsored by the Junior League of Detroit, and recognizes a retiree whose volunteer efforts exemplify the highest standards of service that benefits metropolitan Detroit.

The Exemplary Group Service Award recognizes families, couples or groups who strive to improve the lives of neighbors, friends and their community through volunteer work.

The Governor’s Honor Roll is sponsored by Junior League of Birmingham. It is a non-competitive award that recognizes individuals for outstanding community service, selected by the organizations they serve.

The Heart of Gold Award is given to volunteers in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Winners are chosen for their enthusiasm.

The Outstanding Youth Award recognizes youths 12-18 who are taking action to make our world a better place to live through volunteering. Nominees in this category show leadership, commitment and character through their service in many different activities or in giving a significant amount of time to one project.

The Young Adult Award of Excellence recognizes adults ages 19-25 who represent the highest standards of service, leadership, commitment, and character in their community.

The Outstanding Business Award recognizes and celebrates the many ways that businesses can contribute to social and economic development through volunteering. Businesses recognized by this award excel in, and are committed to, community involvement through volunteering.

To obtain nomination forms and guidelines, please log on to www.uwsem.org/celebrate or contact the United Way George W. Romney Volunteer Center at (313) 226-9430.

Nominations must be received at United Way no later than 5 p.m. on March 16.

Service

FROM PAGE 1

hearings at the 35th District Court.

The City of Romulus generally operates independently, but that’s changing on a much smaller scale, beginning with some parks and recreation services, Lambert said.

“We’re working with Westland to bring baseball to our parks,” he said. “Theirs had to be shut down because of contamination. Also, some of our building inspectors are being loaned out to Northwest Airlines and the (Wayne County) Airport Authority, and we’re getting paid for that.”

The city will also welcome residents from other municipalities to join the recreation center

which will open by the end of this summer, to help defray operating costs associated with the facility.

“There’s going to be two fee schedules; one for residents and the other for non-residents,” he said.

The only governmental entity in Romulus that routinely works with other communities is the 34th District Court, which services the cities of Romulus and Belleville, and Sumpter, Van Buren and Huron townships.

The proposed state budget is still being completed, and its unclear whether there will be revenue cuts to municipalities, or what – if any – incentives will be offered to communities who come up with a plan to share services.

Any proposed budget will have to be approved by the State Legislature.

Robot

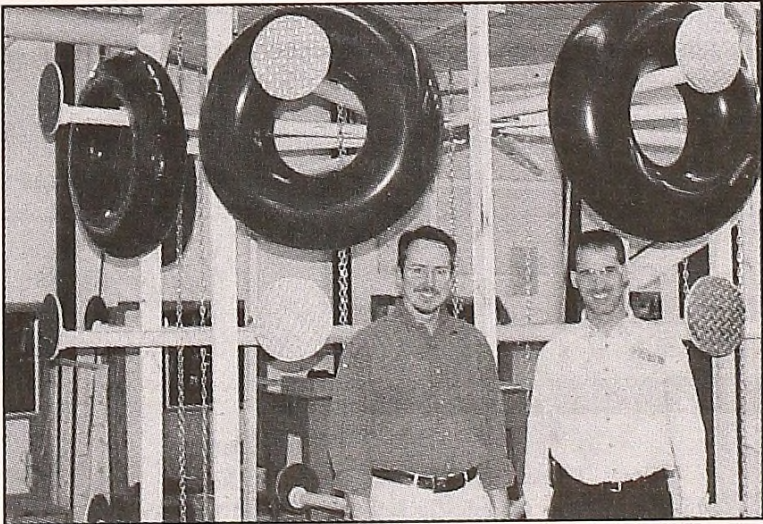
FROM PAGE 1

cal components and metal, this year the robot weighs about 130 pounds.

During the construction phase, students must work with the engineer to build a strategy, given the parameters of the game the robot will have to play. This strategy not only includes how the robot is to be assembled, but also how the project will be financed. GM donates about \$100,000 in labor and materials to the team.

Also part of the planning phase is marketing and fundraising to pay for the trip to Atlanta, which the district does not fund, said Andy Stewart, a science teacher at Romulus High School and the faculty advisor for the FIRST team.

“The Eagles Robotic Team



Andy Stewart, a science teacher at Romulus High School, and Kevin Gay, and engineer at GM Powertrain, stand below two giant inner tubes that signify an obstacle at the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science Technology) competition.

has additionally constructed a deluxe work shed for a fundraising raffle,” he said. “The approximate value of the shed is \$2,500, and tickets were sold for \$10 each.”

Regional tournaments will be in Ypsilanti and Grand Rapids, and teams that emerge victorious from those events will move onto the Atlanta game.

OPINION

On the right track

Democrats in the Michigan House of Representatives unveiled a number of bills last week designed to cut government spending and help stimulate the economy.

These bills are still in the initial stages of discussion, but so far it looks like they are on the right track.

The proposed cuts in government spending show the most promise, if the Democrats are ever able to get them approved. They include an elimination of lifetime health care for new representatives once they leave office. That single benefit, coupled with term limits, has produced an enormous strain on the state budget. The plan also calls for current representatives to pay more for their health care coverage than their predecessors.

It shows two things: an acknowledgement that the health care issue is one that affects everyone throughout the state and those who need to find a solution for it should take the first step. There's no reason government officials can't make the same sacrifices the rest of us have to make. Maybe only when the expense of modern day health care is laid out in a way that will impact them, personally, will they take action to try to ease this burden on the rest of us.

The economic stimulus plan would reduce the overall personal property tax businesses pay, which would help industries inordinately hit by the tax—namely the struggling manufacturing industry. We're a little more skeptical of that idea, though, since many municipalities rely heavily on the funds that personal property taxes bring in. Built up communities have already taken their fair share of hits and have had to scale back services because of it. Any plan to further reduce their revenue should be closely examined.

Another part of the plan is to help automakers by reducing the sales tax consumers pay on new cars. The sales tax on the value of their trade in would be deducted from the sales tax they're required to pay for the new vehicle, saving an average buyer about \$600. We're not sure if that will help the ailing auto industry, but coupled with other automotive incentives, it should at least make purchasing a new vehicle more attractive.

These ideas have a long way to go before they're implemented. We like the concepts, though. They direct efforts and provide help where help is most needed.

So much for that idea...

If it's any consolation to officials in the Plymouth-Canton Community School District, 13 out of 17 tax requests across the state failed on Feb. 27.

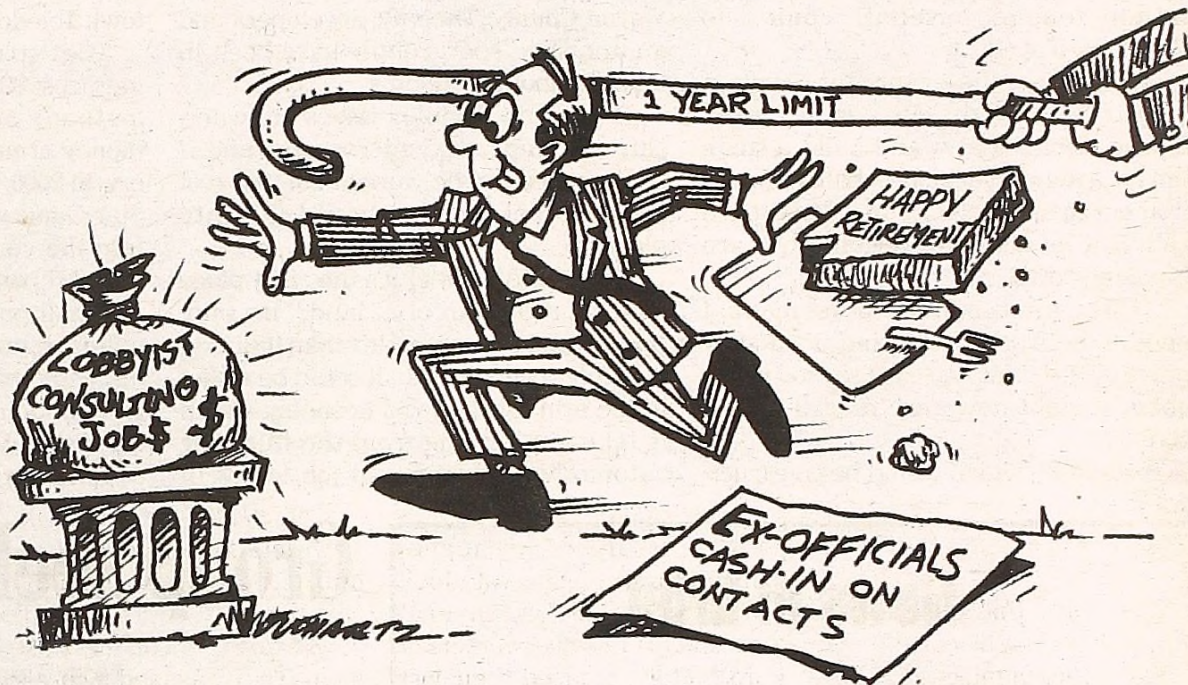
The \$62 million bond requested by the Plymouth-Canton district was among those, even though it represented a classic case of 'need' versus 'wants' and it added up to less than half what the district had requested last year.

Admittedly, that's probably small comfort for Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan, members of the Plymouth-Canton School Board and the many volunteers who put so much effort into promoting the need for the funds.

In the wake of the many bond defeats across the state, Ed Sarpolus, vice president of the Lansing-based polling firm EPIC/MRA, has talked about why they failed. Sarpolus advised officials in the Northville Public School District as well as the Plymouth-Canton district as to why he thought their respective bond issues failed last year.

His latest thought, about who voted and on what, isn't that much different than what he talked about last year, when he compared the perception of needs versus wants.

See **Voters**, page 5



What's the name of this game

The relationship between the city and the township regarding the parks and recreation department took a bizarre twist in Northville Monday night.

The city council approved sweeping changes to the Parks and Recreation Commission by-laws and the shared services agreement that effectively replaced the commission with a board made up of elected officials. The changes guarantee that the township will have a stronger representation on the commission—they effectively put Supervisor Mark Abbo in charge of it—and will limit the input from the city side of the equation.

The goal, according to officials on both sides, is to get the decision makers more involved with setting parks and recreation policies and priorities.

This is something that's been discussed behind the scenes for several months. Those familiar with the issues probably saw signs of it. The township board approved, not too long ago, a resolution that they would discuss potential parks improvements with their city counterparts before they went ahead with them. Their recent dissatisfaction with the priorities outlined in the new Parks and Recreation Master Plan caused them to schedule two study sessions—one that took place last month and another that's scheduled for tonight, complete with a facili-

tator.

Even so, I was surprised at the speed with which these changes hit the public forums and the quickness with which they were granted approval, albeit on a 3-2 vote of the city council.

It was probably inevitable that the township would want a stronger voice in the direction of the parks and recreation department. As board members are apt to point out, they provide most of the funding and nearly all of the land.

This, though, is a poor way to execute a reasonable concept. There's a difference between wanting to have more authority and getting absolute authority and I'm concerned that that's the way this is heading.

Consider the changes: the township representatives will be the supervisor, the clerk and another trustee. The supervisor becomes the chairperson, who also appoints members to any committees formed and is a member of the administrative committee, which has the responsibility of reviewing operational matters as well as the ability to appoint or—to use a euphemistic term—un-appoint the recreation director.

See **Recreation**, page 5

A real learning experience

More than a year ago, I wrote a column about mentoring.

It was before my being 'matched-up' with a mentee, pre-mentor training and basically, before I knew anything about what I was really getting myself into.

I had a lot of questions then: What does it mean to be a mentor? What do I say to her? Will I be able to give or teach her something new? Will she look back on the times we shared as a good experience or a bad one? What happens if she doesn't like me? What happens if I don't like her?

Now, after being in the Northville Youth Assistance Volunteer mentor program with my mentee, Grace, for more than a year, I have most of my answers. I found that, while the program is geared toward the children, I too, have learned a lot.

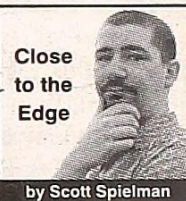
I've learned: who the real "UNO" champion is over and over again—not me; how the "Build a Bear" toy store actually is kind of interesting; how impressionable 8-year-olds and now 9-year-olds really are; how to let go and be a kid again at the park and on the playground; where to find the latest Webkinz toys; how to do card tricks; that ducks also enjoy donuts from the cider mill; that I'm not really that bad at rollerblading; who can

hold their breath longer under water; that being yourself really is the best policy and, despite the age difference, Grace is my friend.

I've also taught her a few things, too: that Guernsey's in Northville has some of the best ice cream anyone will ever eat; how to carve a scary pumpkin; where to find affordable books—the library; how to bake cookies and cupcakes; where to get the latest makeup and accessories for girls; how to host a tea party; what it's like to be the owner of a cute tabby cat; how to dye Easter eggs; what some of the best children-friendly websites are—Hello Kitty; what it's like to go trick-or-treating in Van Buren Township and the unique and special qualities she truly has in herself.

I hope someday that Grace will look back on the time we spent together and, when someone asks her "Who was a mentor to you growing up?" she will think of me.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Grace for everything she's given me. Although I am the one who is technically donating my time, knowledge and care, ultimately, she has given me that as well, and so much more to remember.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman



King's Court

by Andrea King

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Letters

Tax review tips offered

To the editor:

I just wanted to pass along some helpful information to all the readers if they are thinking about going to the upcoming board of review in their communities to protest their property taxes.

According to Michigan Law, "The General Property Tax Act" (excerpt) Act 206 of 1893; Section 211.27 Sec. 27. Sub Section (2) states:

The assessor shall not consider the increase in true cash value that is a result of expenditures for normal repairs, replacement, and maintenance in determining the true cash value of property for assessment purposes until the property is sold.....

—The following repairs are considered normal maintenance if they are not part of a structural addition or completion:

- (These items only apply to residential property)
- (a) Outside painting
 - (b) Repairing or replacing siding, roof, porches, steps, sidewalks, or drives
 - (c) Repainting, repairing, or replacing existing masonry
 - (d) Replacing awnings
 - (e) Adding or replacing gutters or downspouts
 - (f) Replacing windows or doors
 - (g) Insulating or weather stripping
 - (h) Complete rewiring
 - (i) Replacing plumbing and light fixtures
 - (j) Replacing a furnace with a new furnace, or replacing an oil or gas burner
 - (k) Repairing plaster, inside painting, or other redecorating
 - (l) New ceiling, wall, or floor surfacing

- (m) Removing partitions to enlarge rooms
- (n) Replacing a hot water heater
- (o) Replacing dated interior woodwork

Again, these items are considered normal maintenance and repair under

Under Michigan law, the board of review cannot take these items in consideration when determining your assessment, only and when you sell your home.

I hope that this information will be helpful to everyone. I researched this when I went to a board of review and was successful in my application for reassessment of my property taxes.

Remember to stay calm while presenting your application to your respective board of review in your community.

Best of luck to all.

Mark Blackwell,
Wayne

Voters

FROM PAGE 4

Apparently, that's not always the case. It's not as complex as defining what the need is in any particular community and then determining how to make the best case to the voters. It's appar-

ently a lot simpler than that: it's the economy.

The Plymouth-Canton millage suffered from a poor happenstance of timing. The vote took place the day before several thousand white-collar workers at Ford Motor Co. faced their last day of work through their buy out options. There wasn't much anybody could do about that, but it

probably weighed more heavily on the minds of voters than district officials would have liked.

Officials from several other municipalities were paying attention to the votes, regardless of whether they had any stake in them. They provided a sure sign of the immediate economic future for their communities because it showed that residents

simply aren't willing to spend a few bucks to pay for services, no matter how much they may be needed. That's an important detail to keep in the back of the mind as budget processes move forward.

Members of the committee formed recently to promote a road improvement millage request in the City of Wayne have

just learned that their task will be a little harder. They can make a case similar to the one made in Plymouth-Canton: these are needed improvements and this is the only way to pay for them.

In a perfect world that would be enough, but this is clearly not a perfect world. It will be interesting to see what approach they take, now.

Recreation

FROM PAGE 4

The city has two representatives, either the mayor or mayor pro-tem and another council member. The sixth member is a member of the Northville school board.

I understand the concept of having the decision makers more involved, but I don't like taking

this role out of the hands of the volunteers who have worked so hard for so long. I think there has to be a better way to accomplish this other than telling former commissioners: thanks for all the hard work, we'll be in touch if we need you in the future. And how can you kick someone off a board and then turn around and ask them to serve on a subcommittee?

I'm also surprised that these changes could come up and be

decided without so much as a public hearing and I'm more than a little disappointed that the city council didn't table the issue to come up with some other alternatives or allow more people to weigh in on it. I don't care how long this has gone on behind the scenes. Recreation is a huge quality of life factor and residents deserved more warning that this issue was coming up.

Maybe the city council thought this was the best deal they could

get. You could see it in their eyes, though, that they weren't happy. You could tell from their hesitancy that they didn't like it. To approve it anyway shows an appalling lack of leadership.

Putting electeds in charge of the commission depends, too, on the people elected into office. It might be good for the present, but what about the future?

That might be best evidenced in a line stricken from the by-laws, perhaps because its lan-

guage is obsolete: Section 2.1, which lists the qualifications of commissioners: "have demonstrated tangible evidence of his/her interest in recreational activities."

Abbo has said that he wants to keep the public involved in the process and that things can be tweaked as this new plan moves forward. We'll see how that pans out but right now, it looks like city residents will ultimately lose under this new system.

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Open arms Church hopes to organize world's largest hug next week

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Members of the Open Arms Church in Belleville want to wrap to hug the entire community.

The "Community Hug", which is exactly what it sounds like, will take place on April 21 at Belleville High School. It's a way to encourage teachers, students and the whole community to come together, according to Pastor Jim Richter.

"The goal is to bring everyone together around something we believe in—the schools. That's why we said why don't we do the world's largest hug?" said Richter.

It's also never been done before. Therefore, the event will be an attempt to be listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* for the World's Largest Hug, as well.

"We want thousands to join hands around the school. Anybody can come," said Richter. "The students are of incredible value and we want to support and nurture them. This is for the hearts of our kids and with that goes our future. This affects us all."

The idea came, Richter said, as part of the church "40 Days of Community" project. The congregation was challenged to serve outside the church to aid the community.

The Van Buren Public School District was their calling.

"When I spoke with Superintendent

Pete Lazaroff, he told me the greatest needs were mentoring and tutoring, supporting the education foundation and supporting the parent teacher organization with volunteers," said Richter.

"After a lot of prayer and answer, this is what we came up with," said June Brokos, organizer of the event and member of the church. "How can we encourage the schools? We just want to hug them."

The event will start with a pancake breakfast from 8-10 a.m., during which a teacher appreciation slideshow will be displayed to honor the district teachers. Funds generated from the breakfast will go toward the Van Buren Public School Education Foundation.

At 10 a.m. the community hug will take place with the parent teacher organization beatification project to follow from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Anyone who would like to join the event planning is welcome to attend a meeting at 7 p.m. on March 15 at the school administration building.

Richter said this is a positive support of the schools by upholding the value of the teachers and students.

"So much of what we hear in the community related to schooling is negative. We want to help change that over time," he said. "There are 6,600 kids in our school district that serves about 40,000 people, so the hope is there are thousands of people that come together and say we're a community and we care about it."

Abuse suspect back in court

Kevin Hill
Staff Writer

A Canton Township man who police say tied up his girlfriend's son two years ago and recorded the act with a video camera is expected to appear in 35th District Court in Plymouth on Friday for a preliminary examination.

Andre Thornton Montgomery, 27, is charged with second-degree child abuse. Police said his girlfriend, who was going through some old recordings, found a 90-second clip that showed Montgomery putting tape around her young son's hands, feet, mouth and eyes.

"It shows him being bound up and a series of acts being performed by the defendant on the child that (the defendant) describes as playing," said Sgt. Rick Pomorski, of the Canton Police Department. He refused to elaborate on the specific acts, but said the child is crying on the video.

Pomorski said the recording is believed to be two years old. The boy is now 4 1/2 years old and has never shown any signs of physical abuse, the mother told police.

The suspect was arrested Feb. 25 at the couple's current residence in Canton.

A preliminary examination determines if there is enough evidence to send the matter to trial. Montgomery faces four years in prison if convicted. He was arraigned on Feb. 26 at 35th District Court in Plymouth. Chief Judge John MacDonald set a \$50,000 cash bond.



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Meeting dates are as follows:

Residential
March 12, 2007: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
March 13, 2007: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. & 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Commercial/Industrial
March 14, 2007: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Tentative ratios and estimated multipliers are as follows:

Classification	Ratio	Multiplier
Commercial	50%	1.0000
Industrial	50%	1.0000
Residential	50%	1.0000
Developmental	50%	1.0000
Personal	50%	1.0000

Review is by appointment only

Residents and Non-Residents alike may appeal by (1) making an appointment to appear before the Board OR (2) in writing (personal appearance is not required). The Board of Review **MUST** receive all written appeals no later than March 14, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.

Property owners may appoint and authorize a representative to appear on their behalf. All Representatives or Agents **MUST** submit (current) proof of authorization to act on behalf of the property owner as a prerequisite to appeal to the Board of Review.

To schedule an appointment, please call the City of Romulus, Department of Assessment at (734) 942-7520 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Publish: February 22, 2007
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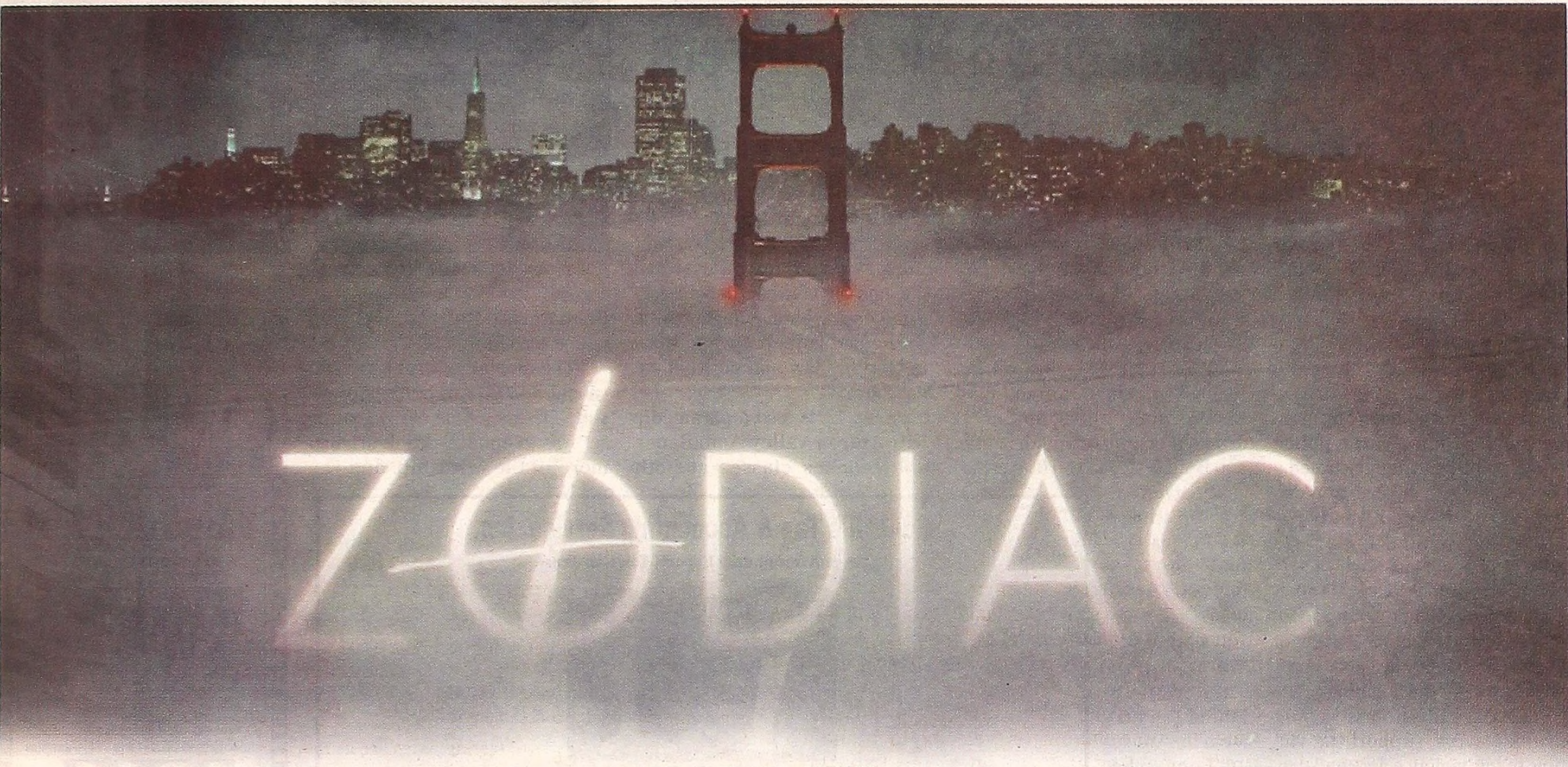
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THE SCENE



Story of serial killer is a thriller

As audiences trickle into theaters to see *Zodiac*, they are in for a treat that has nothing to do with the concession stand.

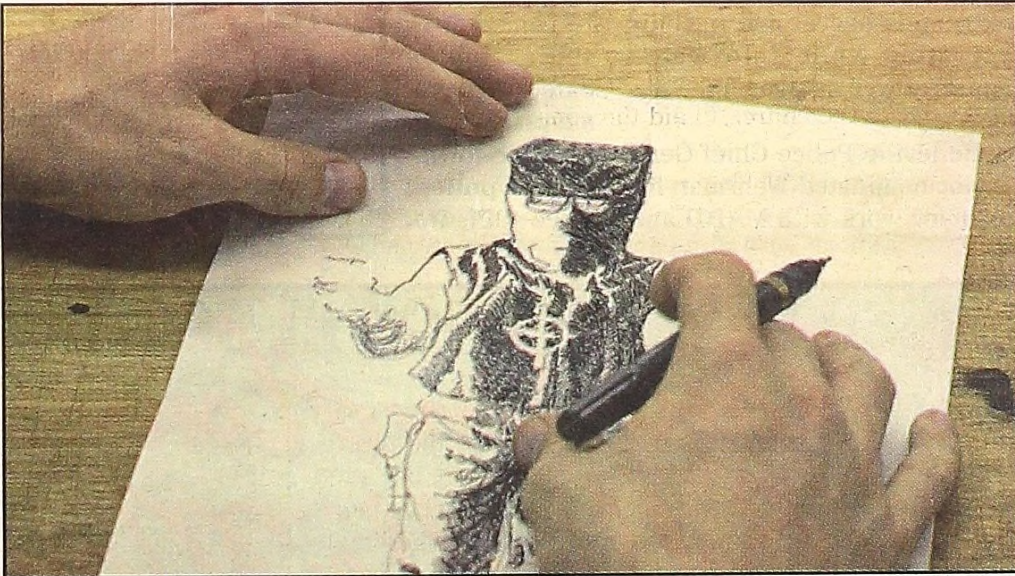
One of the best movies released this year, the film is set during the 1960s and 1970s when a man known only as Zodiac toyed with California law enforcement officials and newsrooms as he went around the state on murderous sprees. A publicity seeker, the man enjoyed contacting the San Francisco media with letters detailing his crimes—both real and imagined.

The film, *Zodiac*, is less about the murders themselves than it is about the cat-and-mouse games played between the killer, police, and reporters. But then, it almost had to be since the movie is based on a well-known true story.

the hunt for a solution and a way to find—and stop—the killer. It quickly becomes almost an obsession for him as he compiles scrapbooks filled with information on the killings.

Although his coworkers consider him odd, the situation links him to Chronicle crime reporter Paul Avery (Robert Downey Jr.) who is equally focused on the killer. For Avery, however, the hunt is due more to a desire for publicity and a career-making story than it is anything else. He wants the Zodiac to be caught and he wants to be instrumental in catching him—no matter what it takes.

For investigators David Toschi (Mark Ruffalo) and William Armstrong (Anthony Edwards), however, the assignment to the



exists between the media and law enforcement.

Although the some of the killings are shown, gore is fairly minimal. Most of the action revolves around the cause-and-effect efforts of the various players to unearth the killer.

It sounds like it should be a very dark film, but it was fascinating and at times very funny—even though it felt a bit strange to laugh at a fact-based movie about a serial killer. If audiences can distance themselves from the fact that the crimes were all too real, then they will probably enjoy it. It is well written, the acting is superb on all counts, and it stays lively and interesting with very few lulls.

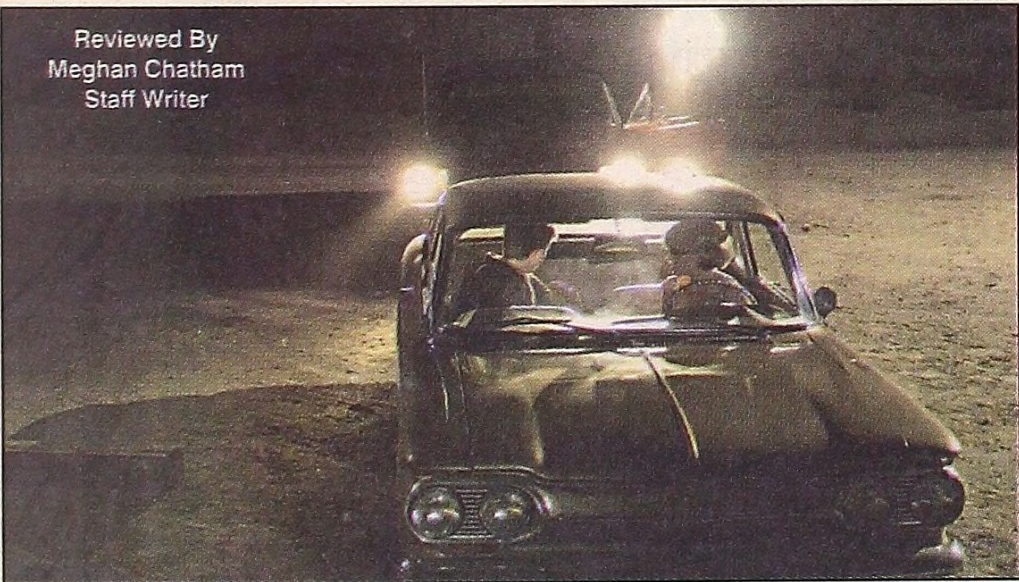
The biggest problem was the length:

including the previews, it lasted nearly 3 hours. I found myself wishing that the director would give the low-octane Gyllenhaal more coffee so that he would move a little bit faster instead of maintaining such a plodding pace. By conservative estimate, I suspect that the film could have cut half an hour of screen time just by making Gyllenhaal's character a little more energetic.

In the end, however, the extra time pays off. Don't wait for this one to hit the video store; it's worth the ticket price to see it in the theater.

The film, which was directed by David Fincher (*Fight Club*), is rated R. It was based on Greysmith's book about the Zodiac murders.

Reviewed By
Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer



The ensemble cast of the film allows the director to tag along on the investigation from several well-developed points of view as the Zodiac investigations increase.

Robert Greysmith (Jake Gyllenhaal) lives a quiet life, alternating between days at work as a cartoonist for the San Francisco Chronicle and nights at home caring for his son. A former Eagle Scout, he doesn't smoke, drink, or indulge in other illegal drugs that his peers enjoy. He stays out of the way and does his job without getting sucked into the news swirling around him.

Then a letter, containing a code arrives in the newsroom. The writer claims responsibility for two attacks. A puzzle lover, the methodical Robert is drawn into

Zodiac case is a battleground and they can't seem to get ahead. No matter how hard they work, they can't seem to find enough legally compelling evidence to charge their favorite suspect. Not only are they saddled by a case riddled with conflicting information and a killer who loves to instigate paranoia in the public, they've got reporters constantly in their way as they try to do their job.

The film is essentially a behind-the-scenes glimpse of what it took to try to catch one of the best-known serial killers in American history. It is, at heart, a police procedural drama similar to the various *C.S.I.* television shows. It's also interesting as it follows the love-hate relationship—sometimes more one than the other—that



Lifesavers

Mother's group honors 2 local officers

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Ofc. Michael Long of the Van Buren Township Police Department and Ofc. Patrick Wehrman of the Belleville Police Department both know what it's like to be lifesavers.

And their efforts were honored this year by Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Wayne County. The group honored more than 27 area police officers who have demonstrated a record of removing drunken drivers from Michigan roadways during the annual Lifesavers Awards banquet last week.

The event took place March 1 at the Burton Manor banquet center in Livonia where Master of Ceremonies Ron Savage of Fox 2 News gave out the honor.

"MADD's mission is to stop drunk driving, support the victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking," said Ne'chole McClendon, executive director for MADD Wayne County. "Each officer was extremely aggressive in their operating while intoxicated arrests as well as community service."

Belleville Police Chief Gene Taylor nominated Wehrman for his hard work with MADD and

the community, he said.

"We can't compare to some other departments because we're smaller. He (Wehrman) not only enforced the drunk driving laws, but also went out to speak to community groups about the issue," said Taylor.

Wehrman, 26, said he was honored to receive the award.

"I was surprised to hear it, but happy," he said. "I worked hard on the night shifts to arrest drunken drivers, maintain traffic and keep the peace on the roads."

Wehrman started in the Belleville police department about two years ago and, will start at the Van Buren Township Police Department this week.

Long, who was nominated by Jerry Champagne, director of the Van Buren Township Public Safety Department, has been with the township police since 1987. He

started out as a reserve officer and is now a full-time officer. This is the first year he has been involved with MADD, he said.

"It's an honor and nice to be recognized for the work you do," Long said. "Police officers are few and far between to be recognized because some might see us as the bad guys, but we have to uphold the law and do what we have to do."

Long, 42, is also a paramedic with Huron Valley Ambulance and teaches classes at both



Ofc. Michael Long



Ofc. Patrick Wehrman

Schoolcraft College and the police academy.

"The amount of drunk-drivers caught in 2006 was quite impressive," he said. "One of my goals I set was to enforce drunk driving more in the township, and we

more than doubled what we had last year in those arrests."

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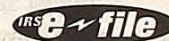
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ZODIAC (R) 12:10, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40
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SPORTS

Canton tumblers win regional meet

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

No one was more surprised that the Canton gymnasts won the regional competition on Saturday than the Lady Chiefs themselves.

The meet was hosted by Canton at Plymouth High School. When Canton Coach and Master of Ceremonies John Cunningham turned around the piece of paper—handed to him upside-down—and looked at the final scores he was, to say the least, shocked.

“I really didn’t go into the meet thinking that we would win,” he said. “I would have been happy with a top-three placing so we would qualify for states but I didn’t expect to win the whole thing.”

Canton had just come off of a disappointing fourth-place finish in the conference meet a week ago, after going undefeated in the league, 11-0.

Heading into the final round of the competition—the vault—Canton gymnasts were laughing and having fun, according to Cunningham.

“I was watching them dance around and laugh and I thought: ‘Even if we don’t place in the top four, at least they’re having fun,’” he said. “And that’s what it is all about.”

Canton won with a top score of 143.800 and will head to the team state final competition at Troy Athens on Friday starting at p.m.

Also, the top-eight finishers in individual events and/or top-six all around competitors will have a chance to compete individually at Troy Athens starting at noon on Friday.

Canton has six that will compete on an

individual basis.

In Division 1 competition, Alyssa Kelley was the top winner of the day for the Lady Chiefs and was named regional champion on vault with a 9.65. She also set a school all-around record score with a 37.825, which was good for second in the region.

She garnered high scores in every event, placing third on bars (9.20), third on floor (9.55) and fourth on beam (9.45).

Jesse Murray missed the cut to compete in the state all-around, placing seventh (36.20), but will have a chance to compete in every event. She was sixth on vault (9.05) and floor (9.375), seventh on bars (8.75) and eighth on beam (9.025).

Kate Staley qualified for one event. She scored a 9.10 floor routine for seventh place. She didn’t qualify for vault, but beat out 80-plus other competitors with a solid 8.8.

Kaitlyn Burns was Canton’s best performer in Division 2. She finished in fourth place all around with a 35.175. Her strongest event was floor, where she scored a 9.25 for second place. She was fifth on vault (8.60), seventh on beam (8.875) and eighth on bars (8.45).

Courtney Ward qualified for floor in seventh place with an 8.775. Mallory Hudak made the cut on vault with an 8.55.

“I’m really proud of these girls,” Cunningham said. “They were relaxed and did their best. I couldn’t have asked them for anything more.”

Northville also qualified for the state finale as a team, placing fourth in the regional meet with a 142.20.

The Lady Mustangs also had three individuals qualify.

Julie Foucher won Division 2 with a



Courtney Ward proves flexible for the Canton Lady Chiefs, helping the gymnastics team to win the regional meet with a lofty score of 143.800 on Saturday at Plymouth High School.

36.325. She took first on vault (9.35), Beam (8.95) and on beam (9.175). Julie Davison (9.275) and floor (9.35). was eighth on beam (8.80).

Amy Reynolds was fifth all-around with a 34.80 and placed third on bars

See **Gymnastics**, page 11



Whalers wrap West

The Plymouth Whalers wrapped up the Ontario Hockey League’s West Division with an 8-2 victory over visiting Mississauga on Sunday. Jared Boll scored a hat trick to lead Plymouth. Evan Brophey added two more and an assist, boosting his point total to 101 on the season with 34 goals and 67 assists. Tom Sestito boosted his goal total to 41 with a score while Daniel Ryder and Andrew Fournier each added single marks. Plymouth led 4-0 after one and 6-1 after two periods of play. Michal Neuvirth (above) was solid in net. He iced the Ice Dogs on 44 of their 46 shots. Plymouth’s special teams were on fire, melting 11 of Mississauga’s 12 power plays, including five straight in the first period. The Whalers penalty killers lead the league with 87.4 percent success rate. Plymouth also swatted the Sarnia Sting, 8-4, at home on Saturday night after coming back from a 2-0 deficit. Chris Terry had five assists in the lashing. Brophey scored twice and assisted on another. Steve Ward, Sestito, Fournier, Vern Cooper, Steve Whitely and AJ Jenks all scored once. Jeremy Smith earned the win between the pipes. Plymouth is on the road against Windsor on Thursday and Erie on Friday before returning home for a 2 p.m. face-off against Sault Ste. Marie. Photo by Ken Garner.

Ignition moves into first

The Detroit Ignition swept the Milwaukee Wave in a home-and-home series over the weekend. The victories landed the Ignition (15-9) in sole possession of first-place in the Major Indoor Soccer League standings. They battered down the hatches to get by the Wave, 13-8, on Sunday at U.S. Cellular Arena in Milwaukee, WI. Forward Hewerton registered the game-winning goal at the 4:34 mark of the fourth quarter. League-leading scorer Jamar Beasley led all scorers with five points, registering one three-point goal and one two-point goal in the contest. Worteh Sampson, Mike Apple and Kyt Selaidopoulos each scored a two-pointer for the club. Detroit beat Milwaukee, 14-12, in overtime at home on Friday night. Kyt Selaidopoulos scored the winning two-point goal just 25 seconds into the extra period for the Ignition win. Beasley scored six points in the winning effort. Hewerton scored two deuces and Ricardinho scored one. Detroit heads to Chicago to face the Strom at 6 p.m. on Sunday. Photo by Ken Garner.



SPORTS



Romulus junior Mario Crawford makes a crucial layup against Belleville, helping the Eagles to a 61-56 home victory on Tuesday.

Eagles win round 2 with Tigers

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

A serious case of deja vu settled into Romulus High School as the Eagles hosted arch-rival Belleville on Tuesday night.

The second round between the two Mega Red behemoths was eerily similar to the first.

In the first contest on Jan. 30, Romulus had an eight-point lead that Belleville extinguished with a 16-5 tear to eventually win the game.

On Tuesday, Romulus was in a similar situation as they watched Belleville inch back from a 12-point deficit.

Everyone had the same thing on their mind as Belleville went on a 15-3 run in

the fourth, tying the game at 53 with 1:30 left to play.

"Not again," is what Romulus Coach Nate Oats said was flying through head. "It's been too many times with them."

Oats' star junior point guard Dominique Buckley echoed the sentiment:

"I was just hoping it wasn't a repeat from the last time," he said.

Belleville Coach Don Hickman lofted pleads to his players and/or the basketball gods.

"Please boys let's find away to pull this one out," was going through his mind, he said. "Somebody knock a shot down;

See Hoops, page 12



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More sports

In volleyball, **Northville** beat **Plymouth**, 3-0 and **Canton**, 3-0, before losing to Livonia Churchill, 3-0, in the district finale at Churchill on Friday.

Northville won pre-regional hockey play with an 8-3 win over South Lyon last Thursday night at the Plymouth Cultural Center ice arena. The Mustangs beat host **Salem**, 8-4, last Tuesday. Brandon Wales scored two goals for Northville. South Lyon dominated **Canton** 10-2 on Tuesday. The Mustangs defeated Brighton, 6-1, on Saturday. The Lady Mustangs fell to **Bloomfield Hills** Cranbrook-Kingswood, 7-1, Monday.

Romulus captured a share of the Mega Red title with a 78-66 victory at Ypsilanti on Friday. Dominique Buckley scored 24 points for the Eagles.

After a tough lost to Romulus last Tuesday, the **Belleville** Tigers beat Monroe, 54-49, last Wednesday in a make-up game. Marius Williams and Booker Stoudmire led the team with 11 points each. Belleville also beat River Rouge, 75-51, on Friday. Kyle Gupton scored 15 to lead the Tigers.

The **Inkster** Vikings lost their final regular season contest, 72-47, against neighboring rival and host **Dearborn Heights Robichaud** on Friday. Renty Rollins scored 18 for the Vikings.

ON LINE: With districts starting this week, find updated scores on the **From the Cheap Seats** district blog at www.journalgroup.com.



Northville's Andrew Lamoureux plows into South Lyon's Robert Kalinski on Thursday in the pre-regional finale at the Plymouth Cultural Center ice arena. Northville won the game, 8-3. Photo by Ken Garner.



Canton's Jesse Murray performs on the balance beam in Saturday's regional competition. She scored a 9.025 that earned her a trip to the state finals this weekend.

Gymnastics

FROM PAGE 9

Salem won't compete as a team in the state tournament, placing fifth in the region. However, the Lady Rocks will send three Division 1 tumblers and one in Division 2 to Friday's competition.

Katie Koetting was fourth in the all around in Division 1 with a 36.8. She was second on bars (9.30), fourth on vault (9.25) and fifth on floor (9.425). She finished ninth (8.825) on beam.

Autumn Collins was fifth on vault

(9.20) and sixth on beam (9.15). Sarah Bugosh placed sixth on bars (8.80).

Brittany Young scored a 9.075 on Division 2 vault to send her to Troy Athens. She also placed sixth on beam (8.975).

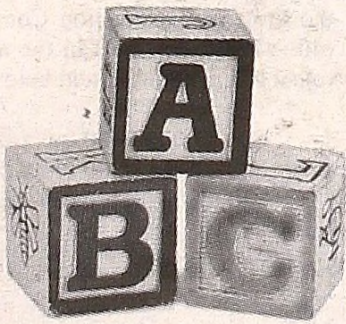
In team competition on Saturday, area teams will have to face off against some of the best tumblers in the state from the No. 1 and 2 teams, Grand Ledge and Holt.

"If we have an exceptional day we can win," Cunningham said. "Or, and I never want to look at it this way, if they have a bad day, we can win. We can't just be good; we have to have a great day."

The Van Buren Public Schools
Gifted Program may be
what your child deserves.

Each child is a unique individual and does not exactly fit any generalized description. However, some of the following characteristics are frequently found in gifted children:

- An ability to learn quickly and easily and to remember more.
- A desire for knowledge and information.
- An intense curiosity; a need to know why things are the way they are.
- A large vocabulary and use of complex sentence structure at an early age.



The Van Buren Public Schools Gifted and Talented Program now serves students in kindergarten as well as grades 1 through 8. This program is designed for academically gifted and highly motivated students. There is an accelerated level of academic work and many opportunities for enrichment activities.

If your child excels in school, has a deep desire for knowledge and information, learns quickly and easily, or is creative, he or she might be a candidate for the Gifted and Talented Program. **Act now! Contact Barbara Woody, Gifted and Talented Coordinator, at (734) 697-6370 by March 16, 2007 to request an application.**



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For Junk, Disabled
or Wrecked Cars
Drive it in or
we'll pick it up!
CTS AUTO PARTS
16007 Pardee, Taylor
(Just North of Wm F. Sell).
(734) 282-1700

SPORTS

Hoops

FROM PAGE 10

somebody make a play.”

This time, however, the ending was a happier one for the Eagles. They held off the Tigers for a 61-56 victory.

The game was nip-and-tuck most of the way, with Romulus taking an 11-10 lead after one quarter and a 32-29 advantage at the half.

Romulus ravaged the first half with fouls. The Eagles racked up eight by the end of the first quarter and, with just less than six minutes remaining in the first half, Belleville was shooting double bonus free throws.

It wasn’t until the third frame when Romulus got something going offensively. Senior center Devin Searcy kicked off a 12-5 run with a rebound score to put the Eagles up, 38-33. Senior Antoine James had back-to-back baskets and a triple by junior forward Will Clyburn made it 46-38. Buckley’s shot put Romulus up by 10 at the end of the quarter.

Searcy opened the fourth with a deuce for the 12-point lead. Then Romulus turnovers and solid defensive stops on Belleville’s side sent the Tigers on their spree. Five different players scored in the 15-3 run. Senior center Anthony Wafer hit a shot with 1:30 left to tie the game at 53.

Buckley hit two free throws after he and junior guard Mario Crawford each hit a basket, edging ahead by six. Belleville’s Caral Dial responded with a triple with

eight seconds left to narrow the gap, 59-56, but Romulus sophomore guard Filmore Bouldes sank both of his freebies to put the game away.

“Once again—and I know I sound like a broken record—but my boys battled,” Hickman said. “They didn’t give up. They gave me everything they had. Romulus just made one more play than we did.”

Oats was, needless to say, relieved with the outcome and feels this might be just what his team needed.

“I wish we would have closed it out earlier but Belleville never goes away,” he said. “We had them down 12 and should have put them away but they hung around and hit some big threes and got some big stops when they had to and made us win a close game, which isn’t bad. We need to learn how to win close games and make

free throws down the stretch.”

He said a key factor was to keep Marius Williams in check. He scored 30 against Romulus last month. Williams still led the Tigers but with 13. Others stepped up for Belleville. Dial added 12 in the effort. Wafer scored 11 and sophomore guard Kourea Hayes hit for 10.

Romulus had eight different Eagles score. Buckley led the way with 15. Senior guard Rod Walker added 14, including four triples—three of them in the first quarter.

“We just had to believe,” Buckley said. “The press and everybody doubted us, saying we weren’t as good as we were supposed to be but we believed in ourselves and had confidence. It was motivation that they beat us last time so we just had to come out and get win, no matter what.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD FEBRUARY 13, 2007 IN THE ROMULUS CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Pro-Tem William Wadsworth.

Present: Ellen Craig-Bragg, John Barden, Harry Crout, William Wadsworth.

Excused: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Randolph Gear.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:

Alan Lambert, Mayor

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk

Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to approve the agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried.

07-041

2. Motion by Bragg, supported by Crout to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 5, 2007.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes -Bragg, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Abstain - Barden.

Motion Carried.

3. None.

07-042

4A. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to concur with the recommendation of Legal Counsel to proceed with civil litigation, (Clark vs City of Romulus).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-043

4B. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to accept Legal Counsel recommendation to proceed in bankruptcy matter. (LT. S Air).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-044

4C. Motion by Crout, supported by Barden to adopt a resolution wishing Polly Lopez a Happy 84th Birthday.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to accept the Chairperson’s Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-045

5A1. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to concur with recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway to award 06/07-05, a 36-month standard municipal lease for two (2) copy machines for the City of Romulus Mayors Office and Human Resources Services Department to Albin Business Services for the total cost of \$2,778 annually per machine.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-046

5A2. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway to authorize the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement for the supply and maintenance contracts for the life of the copy machine at .0065 per copy.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Burcroff, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-047

5B. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway and Public Safety Director, Charles Kirby to reject Bid 06/07-12, and grant authorization to purchase two (2) Dodge Vehicles for the Department of Public Safety under the State of Michigan’s specification No. 3905-0012, to Bill Snethkamp-Fleet of Lansing, Michigan in the amount of \$44,746.87.

Roll Call Vote Showing- Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-048

5C. Motion by Barden, supported by Crout to concur with the recommendation of Purchasing Coordinator, Lynn Conway and award Bid 06/07-15, 2007 official newspaper for the City of Romulus at a per column inch price of \$5.04 per inch to the lowest bidder, Journal Newspapers (The Romulus Roman).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-049

6A1. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 06/07-21 (to set up revenue & expense for Michigan State Police Challenge Award Grant), introduced at the Council Meeting held February 5, 2007.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-050

6A2. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to approve second reading and final adoption of Budget Amendment 06/07-22 (to set up offsetting expense account for a revenue account added during the 06/07 budgeting process), introduced at the Council Meeting held February 5, 2007.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-051

6A3. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to concur with the recommendations of the Property Disposition Committee and accept offer to purchase 014 03 0324-000 (40 x 120 zoned RIB in the amount of \$1,000 from Northstar Development; and to reject offers as submitted below:

020 03 0010 000 (60 x 240 zoned 0-1) in the amount of \$1,000 from Thien Ta

020 03 0017 000 (60 x 240 zoned 0-1) in the amount of \$1,000 from Thien Ta

020 03 0020 000 (60 x 240 zoned 0-1) in the amount of \$1,000 from Thien Ta

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

07-052

11. Motion by Bragg, supported by Barden to authorize the City Treasurer to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 07-03 in the grand total amount of One Million, Twenty Three Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$1,023,526.60).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Barden, supported by Bragg to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Bragg, Barden, Crout, Wadsworth.

Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva W. Webb, Deputy City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Eva W. Webb, Deputy City Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held February 13, 2007.

Publish: March 8, 2007

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments
 & Cemetery Plots
05. Personals/Announcements
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
30. Help Wanted
31. Help Wanted Sales
32. Help Wanted Drivers
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Health and Fitness
43. Money to Loan
44. Music/Art Lessons
45. Elderly Health Care
46. Private Schools/Instruction
47. Riding/Horses/Stables
50. Pets & Supplies
54. Rummage Sales
55. Estate Sales
56. Flea Markets
57. Antiques
58. Garage and Yard Sales
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business and
 Office Equipment
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
65. Tree Service
66. Landscape / Nurseries
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Masonry / Brickwork
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Remodeling & Renovations
77. Recreation Vehicles
78. Hunting / Fishing
82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos/Townhouses for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Real Estate
96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent
98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Flats for Rent
100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business Property for Sale
104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
105. Manufactured Homes
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos/Townhouses for Sale
108. Lake and Resort
109. Income Property
110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property
112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries



WOODS, Henry Carl, 91 of Hale, Michigan died March 1, 2007 at West Branch Regional Hospital where he received excellent care. He was born March 2, 1916 in Canada, the son of Walter and Pearl Woods. He grew up in Canada and moved to Mikado and graduated from Oscoda High School. He worked as a bookkeeper at a courthouse in Harrisville, Michigan. He met Irene Marie Lange on a blind date and married her on February 21, 1940, sixty seven years ago. Henry retired from Ford Motor Company as an Inspector working from years 1937 to 1974. He worked as an electrician with his brother, Archie Woods for many years. Henry enjoyed working with tools and took pride in the house he built in Hale, Michigan and once made a tractor. In his younger years enjoyed camping and boating in Mikado with his family and friends. He is survived by his wife, Irene Woods of Hale; sister, Elsie Waszaleyck of Wisconsin; daughters, Sally (Bill) Hurrelbrink of Westland and Judy Drury of Conway, Michigan. Also survived by his grandchildren, Mark Hurrelbrink of Pickney, James Drury of Scottsdale, Arizona, Thomas Drury of Harbor Springs and one great grandchild, Tai Jaxx Drury. Preceded in death by brothers, Archie, Walter, Wesley, Arnold, Eddie and one sister, Bessie. Funeral services were held at the Hale Chapel of the Buresh-Bennett Funeral Home, 121 S. Washington, Rev. Pat England officiating, Interment at Esmond-Evergreen Cemetery. Memorial contributions suggested to a local hospice of choice

AYCOCK, William T., March 1, 2007, age 83 of Wayne. Beloved husband of Anna. Dear father of James, Jean Vanatta, Frances Lee (Roger) Schroeder, Alice (Robert) Webb, Ruth (Virgil) Allen, Sabrina (Scott) Doletzky, Betty (Mike) Baker and Karen (Eric) Ravi. Grandfather of 25 and Great Grandfather of 19. Service Tuesday 10 am at the Uht Funeral Home, 35400 Glenwood, Westland. Family will receive visitors Sunday 1 - 9 pm and Monday 12 - 9 pm. Memorials to Feed the

Children or the family would be appreciated. Please visit and post a tribute at: www.uhtfh.com

5. Announcements

GO TO GREEKTOWN CASINO St. Patty's Dat Special Sat., March 17 7:00PM \$25 per person Everyone will receive a \$15 voucher to use at the casino. What A Deal! Call 734-890-1250

30. Help Wanted

Direct Care Worker Spectrum community services now hiring for ft/pt direct care worker, working with developmentally disabled adults in the Belleville area. Must have direct care training, a current CPR/FirstAid card, current MI driver's license and must be 18 yrs. of age, and meet other hiring qualifications \$7.50/hr. For more info. call Kim at: 734-367-6778 EOE

Earn \$800-\$3200 monthly to drive brand new cars with ads placed on them. www.AdCarDrive.com

NOW HIRING: Companies desperately need employees to assemble products at home. No Selling, any hours. \$500 weekly potential Info. 985-646-1700 Dept. MI-7180

PT Maintenance Asst. needed at the Public Library of Westland 20 Hrs. per week Eve. & Weekend hrs. Applications available at the library or from www.westland.lib.mi.us

The Q Hair Studio in Old Village Plymouth has chair rentals for stylists, manicurists and pedicurists wishing to operate as independent contractors. Call Kim or Tammy at: 734-927-6690

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC
COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956
Remodeling • Service • City Repairs
 **734-722-0037** 
35728 Van Born • Wayne

31. Sales Help Wanted

ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED
The Journal Newspapers has immediate openings for sales representatives to serve our circulation area. Candidates must have reliable transportation and a willing attitude. Base plus commission. Newspaper or media sales experience preferred, but will train the right candidate. Please send resume detailing experience and availability to:

Susan Willett
Journal Newspaper Group
P.O. Box 339
Wayne, MI 48184

34. Specialized Services

FREE
FREE Custom weight-loss plan and tips. A \$49.95 value.
Diet Center of Canton
www.dietcenterofcanton.com
734-414-9200

Need help looking for someone in your family tree? Want to know where great-grandpa was born? Local genealogy services available at very reasonable rates. Call 734-260-1069 for more info.

40. Business Opportunity

SELL AVON
Unlimited Earnings
Be Your Own Boss
Work From Home
Heather 734-765-4496

42. Health and Fitness

NEED MEDICAL SUPPLIES???
Free medical supplies and equipment for your use. Walkers, canes, wheelchairs, crutches, to name just a few.

DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH???
Donate your supplies outright to the "Medical Supply Sharing Ministry."

Whether you need supplies, or have supplies to donate, or have questions about the program, call Cathy at 734-699-5565

59. Auctions

Notice is hereby given that on 3/21/07 at 11:30am the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

Stor-N-Lock
7840 N. Wayne Rd.
Westland, MI

Space #E-21-Rodney H. Geter: TV/electronics, household furnishings, boxes/bags, office equipment, other misc. items; Space #D-25-Ian Cowen: Household appliances, household goods, boxes/bags, power tools; Space #P-4-Darlene Christie: Household furnishings, boxes/bags; Space #F-26-Cheryl Miller: Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, other misc. items; Space #L-11: Boxes/bags, toys, hand tools, recreation equipment, other misc. items; Space #N-34: Likiha Binford: Clothing, luggage; Space #H-2E-Fredrick Campbell: Household furnishings, household goods; Space #N-9-Kimberly Lockett: Household furnishings, boxes/bags, other misc. items; Space #J-28-Donald Bell: Household furnishings, boxes/bags, recreation equipment, other misc. items; Space #G-9/10-Mark Rahsheed Zockheem: Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, hand tools, other misc. items; Space #L-10-Samuel C. Quick: Household appliances, boxes/bags, toys, hand tools, recreation equipment, other misc. items.

Notice is hereby given that on 3/22/07 at 1:30pm the following will be sold by competitive bidding at:

The Storroom Self Storage
40600 Michigan Ave.
Canton, MI

Space #205-Lynn Ann Smolter: Misc. small appli-

ances, household furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, office equipment, other misc. items; Space #314-Lisa Wright: Misc. small appliances, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, toys, other misc. items; Space # 738-Curtis Tamlin: Hand tools, power tools, other misc. items; Space # 307-Jennifer Minch: Household furnishings, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, other misc. items; Space #804-Ashley Jones: Boxes/bags, clothing, toys, hand tools, recreation equipment, other misc. items; Space #1101-Stephen Little: Boxes/bags, hand tools, power tools, other misc. items; Space #203B-Henry Haynes: TV/Electronics, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, toys, exercise equipment, other misc. items; Space #740-Travis Massey: TV/Electronics, household furnishings, exercise equipment; Space #729-Abby Oladipo-Morris: Household furnishings, household goods; Space #844-Kenneth L. Dotson: Household appliances, misc. small appliances, TV/Electronics, household furnishings, household goods, boxes/bags, clothing, toys, hand tools, lawn care equipment, office equipment, other misc. items

PUBLIC AUCTION
March 18, 2007 10:00AM
Fort Knox Self Storage
39205 Ford Rd.
Westland, MI
(734) 981-0700
www.fortknoxmi.com

In accordance with Michigan law, Fort Knox Self Storage will sell to the highest bidder, the entire contents of each of the following storage units. All units contain common household goods unless otherwise noted.

#308-Richard Grabiec
#545-Ronald Shaw
#345-Frank Bohanon
#103-Michele Fowler
#030-Jeff Null
#371-Sheron Johnson
#465-Cynthia Starbuck

121. Autos Wanted

JUNK CARS WANTED
"ONE OF THE LARGEST STOCKS IN THE AREA"
**OVER 1,000 CARS**
MON.-FRI 8:30-5:30 SAT 8:30-4:00
ENGINES TRANSMISSIONS RADIATORS AIR CONDITIONING BODY PARTS AUTO GLASS USED WHEELS BRAKE PARTS FENDERS HOODS
DOMESTIC & FOREIGN "CARS FROM THE 60'S TO NOW"
42800 Yost Rd.
(At Intersection of Van Born & Marlon Taylor in Canton)
734-397-2200
248-474-4425

#223-Robert Tate
#276-Jim Jacoby
#116-William Keating
#384-Michelle Willoughby
#415-Marina Mackenzie
#368-Rick Clink
#477-Vanessa Desousa
#277-David Santos
#490-Roland Quinn
#378-Fowler Inc.
#369-Judy Weiler
#437-Tony Lee
#219-Lanthy Garland
#241-Steve Hasselbring
#198-Cheryl Ratcliff
#054-Deborah Tozer
#038-Donald Emeigh

PUBLIC AUCTION
March 10, 2007 2:00pm
Proceeds to benefit the American Red Cross S.E. MI Chapter

The Taylor Town Trade Center
22525 Ecorse Rd.
Taylor, MI

Donations of Valuables Needed
Call: 313-277-1974

March is "American Red Cross Month"

Public Auto Auction
Wed., March 14, 2007 8:00AM
Westland Service Towing
300 S. Newburgh
Westland, MI 48186

95 Mercury Sable 4DR Silver
1MELM53243SA601623

95 Honda Accord 4DR Blue
1HGCD5527SA076452

04 Mercury Sable 4DR Tan
1MEFM50U44A600548

78 Chev 30 Camper White
CGR3380123543

94 Mercury Cougar 2DR Gold
1MELM6248RH669943

Note: Vehicles are Canton impounds

BOLD PRINT ATTRACTS MORE READERS!

Worship Directory

Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church
DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. McCLENDON, PASTOR
Sunday { Sunday Morning Prayer (8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.)
Christian Education (9:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.)
Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)
Nursery Room Available for Children 4 Years of Age and Under
29124 Eton Street • Westland, MI 48186 • 734-326-3833

**St. Matthew Lutheran Church & School**
5885 N. Venoy • Westland MI 48185
Phone: 734-425-0260
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Service 8am & 11am • Monday Evenings 7pm
Pastor Kurt Lambert & Pastor Paul Pallatz
Preschool 3 through 8th grade-Fully Accredited

Join Us For Worship
 Dana L. Darby, Pastor
"Embrace Each Other As We Serve God"
New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church
821 Inkster Rd., Inkster, MI 48141
Tel: 313-565-3006
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Public Auto Auction
Tues., March 13, 2007 10:00AM
Westland Service Towing
300 S. Newburgh
Westland, MI 48186

92 Geo Storm 2DR Red
J81RF2365N7548216

94 Pontiac Transport Burgundy
1GMDU06L5RT241888

87 Chev Celebrity 2DR Blue
2G1AW51R8H1116634

95 Ford Probe 2DR White
1ZVL22B0S5120334

93 Ford Probe 2DR Black
1ZVCT22B6P5219361

92 Ford Taurus 4DR Blue
1FACP52UXNG249285

89 Lincoln Towncar 4DR Blue
1LNB8M1F2KY734685

86 GMC Oickup Blue/Grn
1GTCS14R4G2531142

93 Ford T-Bird 2DR Burgundy
1FAPP6245PH207692

94 Ford Ranger Red
1FTCR10AXRUA28640

Note: Vehicles are Westland impounds

61. Misc. Items

NEW Queen Size Orthopedic Pillow Top Mattress and Box Set.
Brand New in plastic with full manufacturer warranty.
Can deliver.
ONLY \$95.00
(734) 326-2744

KING Size Orthopedic Mattress and Split Box Set.
Brand "NEW" in plastic with full factory warranty. Delivery Available.
Sacrifice \$170.00
(734) 721-3799

Brand New Name Brand Mattress Sets at 50-70% below retail.
 Simmons, Beautyrest, Royal Heritage, CMC, Serta Perfect Sleeper, Boyd and Englander
 All sizes and styles in stock.
 Fast delivery
 734-637-2012

8-Piece Cherry Sleigh Bed Bedroom Suite
 Brand "NEW" in unopened boxes
 Full manufacturer warranty
 Delivery available
 \$695
 734-326-2744

10-Piece Oak Pub Dining Room Set
 Brand new in unopened boxes
 Sacrifice for only \$600
 248-449-5699

2pc Queen Pillow Top Mattress Set
 New in plastic
 Sacrifice \$100
 Can deliver
 734-891-8481

All NEW Plush/Pillow Top MATTRESS SETS
 Twin \$90, Full \$100, Queen \$125, King \$200 w/Warranty
 Can Deliver
 (734) 891-8481

Hot Tub, '07
 New in box,
 W/warranty, waterfall, colored lights
 Deliverable
 \$1975
 313-586-0008

FISH FOR STOCKING MOST VARIETIES PONDS-LAKES

LAGGIS' FISH FARM
 269-628-2056 Days
 269-624-6215 Evenings

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres
 Motel, low daily and weekly rates.
 Refrigerator, microwave, HBO.
 Call 734-721-1220
 Tel-96 Inn
 313-535-4100
 Fairlane in Novi
 248-347-9999
 Days Inn/Sunrise Motel
 734-427-1300



Days Inn Canton
 Low Daily, Weekly or Monthly rates
 Every room features:
 *Micro-fridge
 *Coffee-maker
 *Free Hi-speed wireless
 *Hair-dryers
 +In room movies/HBO/cable
 Free local calls
 Free parking
 Meeting room for 35-40
 Coin operated laundry
 Conveniently located at 40500 Michigan Ave. at I-275, Exit 22
 Next to Wendy's
 734-721-5200

ROOM FOR RENT Wayne
 \$85/weekly
 All utilities included.
 Call 734-721-0232.

88. Duplexes For Rent

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
 Call for list of clean, renovated 2 & 3 BR duplexes. Most units Lead Paint safe. Section 8 vouchers welcome.
 Some pets permitted.
 Flexible move-in cost.
 Professional local full-time management and service.
 Office at 2365 S. Venoy.
 Norplex Associates
 734-722-6444
 EHO

WESTLAND
 2-3BR Duplexes
 900-1,100 sq. ft.
 Updated & freshly painted
 Sec. 8 welcome
 Starting at \$525 plus sec. dep.
 Full Time Mgt. staff
 CALL FOR MOVE-IN SPECIALS
 Call 734-507-9149

89. Apartments For Rent

PLYMOUTH
 McCool Apartments
 Spacious 1 & 2 BRs
 Heat included
 Assigned Parking
 Walking Distance to Downtown Plymouth
 2 Months FREE RENT on All 1 Bedrooms
 Located at:
 Sheldon & N. Territorial
 1 BDs from \$531/month.
 Call for details
 734-582-9656

WAYNE
 Near Wayne Road
 Quiet and clean 1 BR
 Heat and water inc.
 Ideal for singles and retirees.
 No Pets
 \$450 moves you in with approved credit
 Sec. 8 welcome
 313-561-9818
 or 313-247-2075

WAYNE, MI
 Quiet 1 & 2 BRS,
 Well maintained,
 heat/water/A/C inc.,
 no pets
 Great for singles & retirees
 \$470-\$600/month
 1/2 OFF 1ST MONTH
 Call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or 734-718-9521
 or owner @ 734-718-3562

Call
 734-467-1900
 to place your ad.

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FOOD

Simple Sides for *Easy* Entertaining

FAMILY FEATURES

Seasonal celebrations provide a perfect opportunity to entertain at home. Just remember, the key to a successful and stress-free soirée is to keep it simple and think “side dishes.”

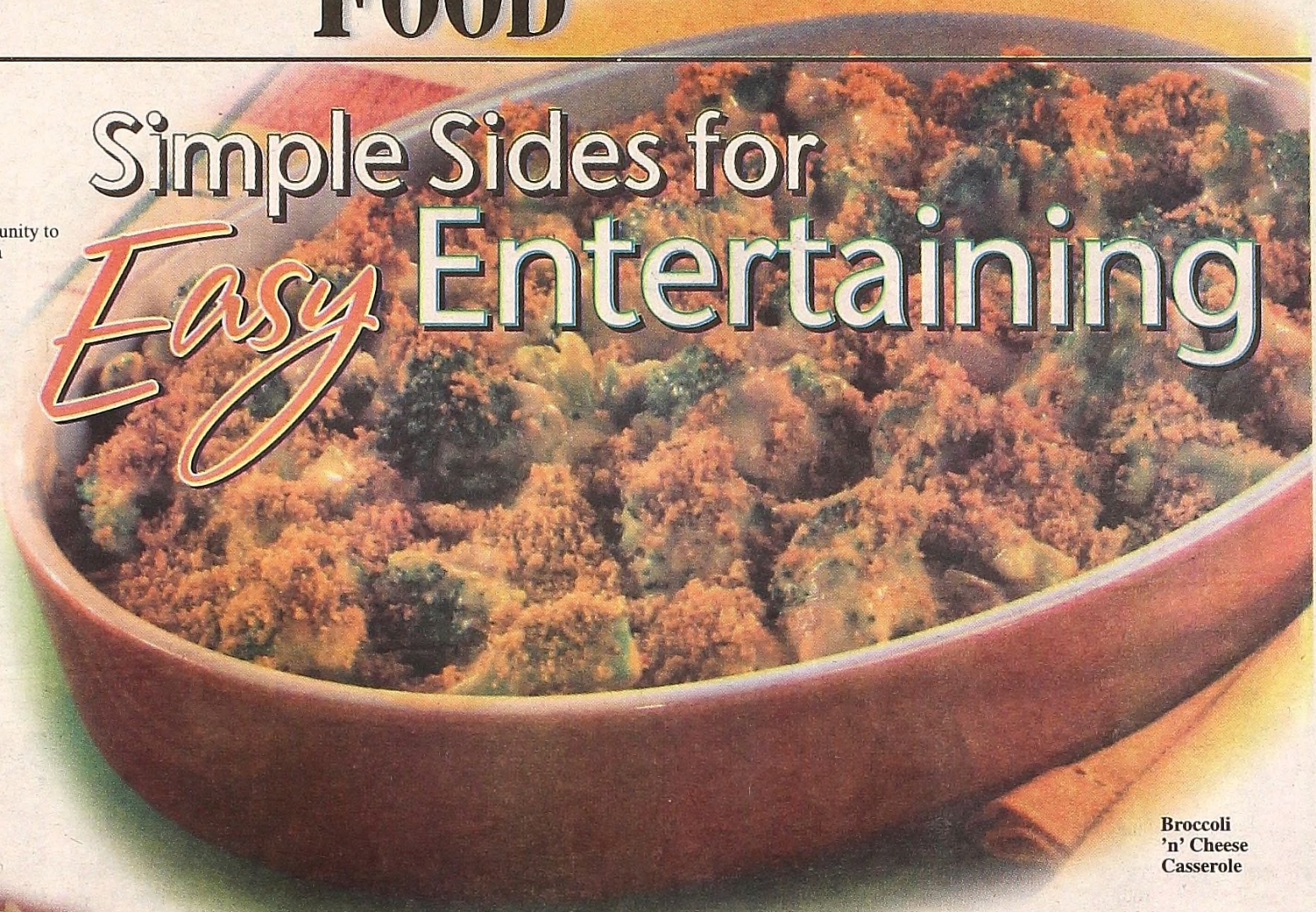
Side dishes are a great way to show your versatility and shine in the kitchen. Prepare a meal with a simple roast or store-bought entrée, such as a glazed ham or roasted turkey, and you’ve got a terrific spread that will keep your guests coming back for more.

Broccoli ‘n’ Cheese Casserole is an easy and delicious spin on a plain broccoli side dish. Plus, it’s a great way to get your younger guests to eat their veggies.

For a dish that is simple, but full of flavor, try Broth Simmered Rice. Prepared with Swanson Broth instead of water, it is easy to customize to complement any main course. For a tasty twist, make it “Florentine” by adding Italian seasoning, spinach and Parmesan cheese.

Three-Cheese Pasta Bake is a creamy pasta dish that is sure to satisfy. Made with Campbell’s Cream of Mushroom soup, this crowd-pleaser has only six ingredients and can be ready in just 25 minutes.

For more festive and flavorful recipes, please visit www.campbellskitchen.com and www.swansonbroth.com.



Broccoli
‘n’ Cheese
Casserole



Florentine
Simmered Rice

Casual Entertaining Tips

- To make your next weeknight dinner extra special, set the table with matching linens and provide a place card at each diner’s seat.
- Music is an easy way to set the tone for a gathering. Once you choose a theme, select a few favorite compact discs to play throughout the evening.
- Choose dishes that can be prepared ahead of time. That way, when guests arrive you can spend more time socializing and less time in the kitchen.

Broccoli ‘n’ Cheese Casserole

- Prep: 5 minutes / Bake: 30 minutes
Makes: 6 servings
- 1 10 3/4-ounce can Campbell’s Condensed Cream of Mushroom Soup (Regular, 98% Fat Free or 25% Less Sodium)
 - 1/2 cup milk
 - 2 teaspoons yellow mustard
 - 1 16-ounce bag frozen broccoli florets, thawed (about 4 cups)
 - 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese (4 ounces)
 - 1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
 - 2 teaspoons butter, melted
1. Stir soup, milk, mustard, broccoli and cheese in 1 1/2-quart casserole.
 2. Mix bread crumbs and butter in small bowl; sprinkle over broccoli mixture.
 3. Bake at 350°F 30 minutes or until hot and bubbly.

3-Cheese Pasta Bake

- Prep: 15 minutes / Bake: 20 minutes
Makes: 4 servings
- 1 10 3/4-ounce can Campbell’s Condensed Cream of Mushroom Soup (Regular, 98% Fat Free or 25% Less Sodium)
 - 1 8-ounce package shredded two-cheese blend
 - 1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
 - 1 cup milk
 - 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
 - 3 cups corkscrew-shaped pasta (rotini), cooked and drained
1. Stir soup, cheeses, milk and black pepper in 1 1/2-quart casserole. Stir in pasta.
 2. Bake at 400°F 20 minutes or until hot.
- Easy Substitution:** Use 2 cups of your favorite shredded cheese for the 8-ounce package.

Broth Simmered Rice

Prep: 5 minutes / Cook: 25 minutes
Makes: 4 servings

- 1 3/4 cups Swanson Chicken Broth (Regular, Natural Goodness or Certified Organic)
 - 3/4 cup uncooked regular long-grain white rice
1. Heat broth in 2-quart saucepan over medium-high heat to boil.
 2. Stir in rice. Reduce heat to low. Cover saucepan and cook 20 minutes or until rice is tender and most of liquid is absorbed.

Florentine Simmered Rice: (As pictured above) Add 1 teaspoon dried Italian seasoning to broth. Add 1 cup chopped spinach with rice. Stir in 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese before serving. Serve with additional cheese.

3-Cheese
Pasta Bake



Squash Casserole

- Prep: 15 minutes
Bake: 40 minutes
Makes: 8 servings
- 3 cups Pepperidge Farm Corn Bread Stuffing
 - 4 tablespoons butter, melted
 - 1 10 3/4-ounce can Campbell’s Condensed Cream of Chicken Soup (Regular or 98% Fat Free)
 - 1/2 cup sour cream
 - 2 small yellow squash, shredded (about 2 cups)
 - 2 small zucchini, shredded (about 2 cups)
 - 1/4 cup shredded carrot
 - 1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1. Mix stuffing and butter in a medium bowl. Reserve 1/2 cup stuffing mixture for topping. Spoon remaining stuffing mixture into a 11- by 8- by 2-inch shallow baking dish.
 2. Stir soup, sour cream, yellow squash, zucchini, carrot and cheese in a large bowl. Spread vegetable mixture over stuffing mixture; sprinkle with reserved stuffing.
 3. Bake at 350°F 40 minutes or until hot and topping is golden.

Roasted Asparagus With Lemon and Goat Cheese

- Prep: 10 minutes
Bake: 20 minutes
Makes: 6 servings
- Vegetable cooking spray
 - 1 lemon
 - 2 pounds asparagus, trimmed
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil
 - Freshly ground black pepper
 - 1/2 cup Swanson Vegetable Broth (Regular or Certified Organic)
 - 3 ounces soft goat cheese, crumbled
1. Heat oven to 425°F. Spray a 17- by 11-inch roasting pan or shallow baking sheet with cooking spray.
 2. Grate enough lemon peel to make 1 teaspoon. Squeeze lemon to make 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Set peel and juice aside.
 3. Stir asparagus and oil in prepared pan. Season with black pepper; add broth.
 4. Bake 20 minutes or until asparagus is fork-tender, stirring once. Top with cheese, lemon peel and juice.

\$4⁸⁸**Baby Hamsters**

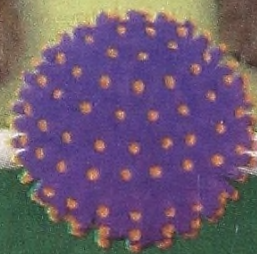
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